[757 cont.]

K 233 The Kabardin still occupy themselves principally with the raising of sheep, goats, cattle, and horses, which have Arabic blood, are taller and more powerfully built than the C 241 Abkhaz horses, and are famous for their beauty and endurance. The other Cherkess have changed over more to agriculture since the end of the fighting with the Russians.

They clear the land that they wish to seed, burn off the grass in the spring, as is also done on the pastures and meadows, and then plow and harrow with the brush-harrow [Strauchegge] (see above, p. 686 [untranslated]); until recently there was no fertilization with manure. Earlier, when the land around a village was exhausted, they merely dismantled the huts and settled C 256 in another place.

While the grain is ground in a water or horse mill, millet is husked by means of a pitted surface [Anke] (see above, p. 693 [untranslated]) and a wooden disk turned by hand, as is customC A 231 ary in Finland, and ground with a hand-mill by the women.

Bees are often kept here, as in Abkhazia.

The beehives resemble those commonly used by us; they are cut out of linden bark or plaited out of willow twigs and smeared with clay and cow manure. As protection from the rain, a thick straw plaiting is laid on top. [758] Swarms that have flown out are caught with a bark cover fastened on a stick. In July and August, the hives are placed in the forests of the foothills, otherwise near the villages.

A C 467 The women have the same tasks as among the mountain peoples; among the Abkhaz, however, the men help in A 2 the fields, fruit orchards, vineyards, and at other tasks. Among [281] other things, the women also produce morocco leather (tsuš), from which belts, shoes, bedding, etc. are made. Besides ves- A 2 sels and utensils, the men carve beautiful spoons out of wood and [412] horn, build wagons (ɣkū) with two disk-wheels that are hewn out [493] of a single piece of wood and the axle turns with them (cf. Fig. 416 [in untranslated portion]). They used to produce their own A 2 gunpowder, leeching the saltpeter (gin-khuš = powder-salt) for [389] it from sheep manure. [Fig. 450 appears here.]